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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/22/2016
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SUBJECT: KUWAITI RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR SECURITY
ASSISTANCE FOR LEBANON

REF: STATE 138390

Classified By: Ambassador Richard LeBaron for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

(C/NF) PolChief discussed reftel demarche August 23 with Shaykh Dr. Ahmed Nasser Al-Sabah, Office Director for the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. Shaykh Dr. Ahmed confirmed that the Government of Lebanon had presented the GOK with a list of its needs and said the UK Embassy also shared a similar list on August 22. He reported that the Prime Minister declared assistance to Lebanon a GOK priority and tasked the defense and foreign ministries to assess the GOL's needs and respond immediately. Shaykh Dr. Ahmed said "in principle, we totally agree with this," but noted that "technical difficulties" may prevent the GOK from fulfilling all of what Lebanon requested. He added that Kuwait might need air lift assistance in transporting equipment and materiel to Lebanon.

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LeBaron